

# **SDMS US EPA REGION V -1**

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL & CROP SCIENCES

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843-2474

*Jeff Lawson*  
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Dr. Janis Perino  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
2200 Church Road  
Springfield, Illinois 62794

IEPA  
OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY

Dear Dr. Perino:

Enclosed you will find a very tentative schedule for sampling at various Superfund sites across the country. At this point in time, I have tried to schedule most of the sampling visits approximately two weeks apart to allow us time to return to the lab and analyze the samples. This schedule can be modified if you feel there is a better time for sampling the sites selected in Illinois. I have decided to work from two sites in your area. As I mentioned on the phone, we are partial to wood-preserving sites, so would prefer at least one of the sites to be a wood-preserving facility. The second site is for you to pick from those for which you believe chemical analysis will be less than adequate for site evaluations.

I have also enclosed SOP's for soil and surface water sampling. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information. We are looking forward to meeting with you and your staff when we conduct our sampling visit this summer.

Sincerely,

*K.C. Donnelly*  
K.C. Donnelly

Encls.

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Tentative Superfund Site Sampling Schedule

Sites Completed:

February 3 & 15: Fireman's Training School, College Station, TX.  
February 23: Drake Chemical, Loch Haven, PA (Samples shipped).

Sites to Sample:

May 4: Tacoma Tar Pits, Tacoma, Wash. (Samples shipped).  
May 27: McBay Oil and Gas, Grapeland, TX.  
June 2: Minerva Waste Facility, Milam Co., TX.  
June 20-24: Solvent Recovery Services, Arcola, TX.  
State Marine, Port Arthur, TX.  
International Creosote, Beaumont, TX.  
July 26: Dow Chemical, Midland, MI.  
Hartley & Hartley Landfill, Midland, MI.  
August 3-5: Illinois (Site to be determined).  
August 22-24: Munoz Borrow Pits, Mission, TX.

#### 4.2.2 Surface Soil Sampling Procedures

The method of collecting surface soil samples is with the use of a spade and/or scoop. A spade can be utilized to remove the top cover of soil to the required depth; the smaller scoop can then be used to collect the sample.

1. Carefully remove the top layer of soil to the desired sample depth with a spade.
2. Using a stainless steel lab spoon or equivalent, collect the desired quantity of soil.
3. Transfer the sample into an appropriate sample bottle.
4. Check that a "teflon" liner is present in the cap, if one is required. Secure the cap tightly. The chemical preservation of solids is generally not recommended; refrigeration is usually the best approach, supplemented by minimal holding time.
5. Use the remaining soil to repack the hole from which the sample was collected. If the volume of excavated soil is not sufficient to fill the hole, collect the required fill volume from a similar soil type in an area not affected by hazardous waste operations.

#### 4.2.3 Soil Sampling Quality Control

1. Detailed core information will be collected during the sampling operation. The information recorded will include depth of sample, length of core, description of core including texture of soils, soil horizons, discolorations, and any odors. This information will be recorded on standard boring logs (Figure 2).
2. In situations where biased conditions (e.g., discolored soil, dead vegetation) are not apparent, individual soil sampling sites may be identified following collection of a series of exploratory soil cores from within the general sampling location. Visual inspection of these cores will indicate the location from which soil samples will be collected. The information gained from the visual inspection of these cores will be recorded on standard boring logs.

#### **4.3.1 Surface Water and Sediment Sampling Procedures**

The following procedures will be followed for surface water and sediment sampling:

1. Assemble the pond sampler. Make sure that the sampling beaker and the bolts and nuts that secure the clamp to the pole are tightened properly.
2. With proper protective garment and gear, take grab samples by slowly submerging the beaker with minimal surface disturbance. For sediment samples, scoop the sediment from the bottom of the unit.
3. Retrieve the pond sampler from the surface water with minimal disturbance.
4. For surface water samples, remove the cap from the sample bottle and slightly tilt the mouth of the bottle below the beaker edge. Empty the beaker slowly, allowing the sample stream to flow gently down the side of the bottle with minimal entry turbulence. Continue delivery of the sample until the bottle is almost completely filled.
5. For sediment samples, decant excess water. Place sample on foil-lined tray and divide sample into the required aliquots using a lab scoop. Place sample into the appropriate containers.

#### **4.3.2 Surface Water Sampling Quality Control**

1. Surface water samples will be collected in a manner which ensures minimal agitation of sediment layers and/or alteration of the sample.
2. Color, odor, or turbidity of the surface water or sediment sample will be recorded.

#### 4.5 Air Monitoring

Air will be specifically monitored at three locations: 1) the covered ponds; 2) the underground fuel oil tanks; and 3) the indoor drum storage area at location 14.

##### 4.5.1 Air Monitoring Procedures

Refer to Section 6.3 for further information on the monitoring equipment. At the bare area noted on one backfilled surface impoundment, the air will be monitored on a continuous basis for approximately 10 minutes near the surface. Readings will be recorded, as needed, with the weather conditions. At the 90-day drum storage area, the air will be monitored at the building door. If readings do not exceed 3.0 ppm, the area will be entered. Readings will be made on a continuous basis throughout the area. Monitoring will be recorded for approximately 10 minutes. The procedure for the fuel tanks will be the same as for the backfilled surface impoundment.

##### 4.5.2 Air Monitoring Quality Control

The instrument will be field tested and set to a zero reading before and after the SV to determine accurate readings.

#### 4.6 Sample Containerization and Labeling

##### 4.6.1 Containers

The sample containers for the SV will be supplied by the analytical laboratory. Sample containers will be prepared by the laboratory with the appropriate preservatives according to the Region V QAPP.

Samples will be placed in the appropriate containers, as defined by the Region V QAPP, at the time the sample is collected.

##### 4.6.2 Sample Labels

Each sample container will be clearly labeled according to the approved Region V QAPP.

Labels will be affixed to each sample container and will be secured with clear, waterproof tape. Sample containers will be individually wrapped in clean plastic bags and placed in a clean cooler filled with ice. Prior to shipment, additional ice will be added as necessary. The cooler will then be closed and sealed as described below.